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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KOBAYASHI et al — Atty. Ref.: 1417-453; Confirmation No. 3755

Appl. No. 10/783,021 — TC/A.U. 1754

Filed: February 23, 2004 — Examiner: Nguyen

For: CATALYST FOR DECOMPOSITION OF HYDROCARBONS, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE CATALYST, AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING HYDROGEN USING THE CATALYST

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December 21, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE

Responsive to the Official Action of December 15, 2005 and the requirement for restriction presented in it, applicant elects the subject matter of claims 1-5, Group I, directed to a catalyst. This response is made with traverse to the extent the non-elected claim 6 (Group II) directed to the process may be rejoined once the product claims are found to be allowable.

Please examine the elected claims on the merits taking into account the documents cited in the European Search Report as presented in the Information Disclosure Statement filed July 15, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

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